

## PACIFIC COAST BORAX.

CONSTABLE HOOK WILL HAVE A PLANT TO PREPARE IT.

Largest Mine in Washington, with \$2,000,000 Gold Ore in Sight—Drilling for Oil in Montana—Chinese Make a Big Strike in British Columbia—Promising Iron Region in Canada, North of Lake Superior.

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 17.—The English syndicate which has been investing in Pacific coast borax property, the Pacific Borax and Redwood Chemical Works, Limited, has filed a trust deed of all its properties on the Pacific coast to cover a loan of \$1,250,000 for the purpose of construction of a large borax plant at Constable Hook, New Jersey, whither it is to be moved the large plant which the Pacific Borax Company has been operating in Alameda. The deed recites that the syndicate controls borax mines or factories in San Bernardino, Inyo and Alameda counties of this State, Esmeralda county, Nevada, and Curry county, Oregon.

Experiments are being made in Butte county, which so far have been successful, in the use of dredgers for working large tracts of dry, low-grade gravel which are not rich enough to be hydraulized. Prospecting these deposits with steam drills is also being tried. A six-inch hole is drilled to bedrock, taking out enough dirt for assay purposes by this means at a fraction of the usual cost. With the dredger gravel can be worked at a cost of about 3 cents per cubic yard, and thus low-grade deposits of gravel, of which there are unlimited quantities in the State, may be profitably mined. Several of these dredgers which are now being built in Butte county will cost about \$25,000 each, and each will handle about 200 cubic yards of gravel per day.

The Lighter mine, at Angels, Calaveras county, has been taken over by the American through the Coleman shaft. The Lighter was flooded to within 100 feet of the surface.

The Onedia mine, Amador county, has a large ledge of the first crushing of 100 tons yielded \$4 per ton. The ore can be mined and milled at profit.

A very rich strike has been made in the Gold Bug mine at Placerville, El Dorado county. The report says a single pan yielded \$100. A rich chute has been uncovered in the Bonnet mine, which was worked some years ago and yielded gold to the value of \$75,000. Then the lead was lost and the mine was abandoned. The present owners, after some work, have found the lead again. The rock milla from \$80 to \$100 per ton.

The Pennsylvania, at Grass Valley, Nevada county, has declared a dividend of 5 cents per share. Ten stamps are to be added to the milling capacity. At the Terrell mine near Nevada City, a seven-foot ledge of good value has been uncovered at 250 feet and a twenty-stamp mill is to be built.

Sulphur deposits have been discovered in San Diego county, about fifty miles from Flowing Wells station, on the Southern Pacific road.

The larger part of the Old Boss and McClary grange mine at Trinity Centre, Trinity county, has been sold to the McDonald Brothers of French Gulch and San Francisco for \$40,000. The property consists of about 1,000 acres of river benches and ancient channels. The average depth of the gravel is 20 feet and the total amount of gold contained has been estimated by experts at \$10,000,000. A million or more has been taken out during past years, and more recently the property has been profitably worked in a small way. It is now to be developed on a large scale. The water supply was depleted and new plants, tunnels, pipe lines, sluices and elevators will be among the improvements.

VERMONT CITY, Sept. 17.—At Golconda a body of superior copper ore has been uncovered, and works have been erected which handle sixty tons of ore every ten hours, producing four tons of matte. Two more furnaces are being built and Golconda promises to be soon one of the big copper camps of the country.

The gross value of the ore taken out of the De Lamar mine during the three months ending in June was \$417,618, and the present net earnings of the property are said to exceed \$120,000 per month. Work has been begun to double the present 300-ton capacity.

WASHINGTON.

SEATTLE, Sept. 18.—The Haber syndicate, operating in Troublesome district, have increased their working force to sixty, and are constructing a new mill, and are also engaged preparatory to development all winter. The ore bodies give assurance of permanency and profit.

In Republic district the Republic mine is making a wonderful showing of high-grade ore that puzzles the experts. This ore is as rich as chalcite, and contains a large amount of precious metals. On the surface it assayed \$2 per ton gold, but it increased rapidly in value and now gives returns of from \$100 to \$200 per ton, and the ledge has widened to twenty-five feet. Although but a small amount of work has been done, it is claimed that over \$1,000,000 has been taken out of the mine. A million has been offered for the property. Present it is regarded as the largest mine in Washington.

ALASKA.

SEATTLE, Sept. 18.—In southeastern Alaska Retchikan is assuming importance as a mining center and a great many mines have been made there. Within half a mile of the place during the past week a gold ledge of from six to twenty feet wide was uncovered along the beach, the ore averaging \$100 free gold and 15 per cent. copper. Discoveries of this character are almost daily occurring.

The excitement over the Pine Creek placer mine has settled down to a steady state. Thousands of locations were made and a large number of properties are being developed, but so far no astonishing discoveries are being made.

MONTANA.

BUTTE, Sept. 20.—Two good strikes are reported on the property of the Montana Mining and Milling Company, between Safford and Borax in western Montana. The most important is on the property of the Montana Mining and Milling Company, where the company has already made a strike of gold and silver. The two lodges are running nearly and lead. The angles with each other, crossing in the center of the mine.

A few weeks ago the vein at the 300-foot level in the Overland mine was found badly faulted, causing a general reduction in the force. An exploration force was retained to explore the fault, and if possible to correct the convection of the ore body. This has been done in a gratifying manner. The fault has been penetrated more than thirty feet and at the bottom is rich as ever.

The vein is now going on twenty-five miles west of Red Lodge. The drill is down between 150 and 200 feet. At the depth of 20 feet good prospecting was made, and the formation all the way down indicates that oil in great quantity underlies the surface, but at what depth it lies is not known. The formation is said to closely resemble that of the oil fields of Pennsylvania. It is the intention to continue the drilling to 300 feet in case a flowing well is not sooner encountered.

The United States Assay Office at Helena received last week a deposit of gold from the Little Lake mine, which was shipped from Butte this week to the Little Lake of the gold mine. The mine is being developed by the Montana Mining Company, and the vein is a high-grade gold vein, and will ship to the smelter at Butte, but little work has been done on the property.

MONTEZUMA, Sept. 20.—The Montana Mining and Milling Company, owning the Montana Mountain at Helena, has just week opened up in its tunnel a vein of rich copper and gold ore, solid between walls and three feet thick. The vein is a high-grade gold vein, and will ship to the smelter at Butte, but little work has been done on the property.

IDAHO.

IDAHO CITY, Sept. 17.—The Golden Pledge mill at Centerville, Idaho, has been nearly a month, has turned out an average of \$12 per ton.

The new stamp mill on the Brulser group at Grange, Idaho, has been running for three weeks and the clean-up have given large

## TWO LAY ON TRACK TO DIE.

MAN AND WOMAN KILLED IN MALBONE STREET TUNNEL, BROOKLYN.

Suicide Suggested by Several Circumstances—Lay Side by Side with Their Heads on One Rail—Made No Move When Engine Passed—No Clue to Identity.

A Conductor Isaided on the Kings County Elevated Railroad in Brooklyn struck and instantly killed a man and a woman in the Malbone street tunnel, near Prospect Park, at 1:20 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The bodies were dragged a distance of fifty yards under the engine before the train could be stopped, and the bodies were found lying side by side, with their heads on one rail and their feet on the other. The bodies were found by a policeman who was on duty at the time.

The police are unable to determine whether the couple committed suicide or were accidentally struck by the engine. There are circumstances which made the suicide theory plausible, the most convincing one being that the man and woman were lying with their bodies between the east and west tracks, with their heads across the inside rail of the tunnel. The tunnel is only about six feet high, and the bodies were found lying side by side, with their heads on one rail and their feet on the other.

The Malbone street tunnel is about as long as two ordinary city blocks. A dozen yards from the Kings County Elevated Railroad, the Kings County branch of the Kings County road. During the daytime one can see twenty feet ahead in the tunnel. There is considerable space between the tracks and the walls of the tunnel. There is a sign at either end of the tunnel, but it was not seen through it, but for years this sign has been disregarded, and people walking along the tracks have gone on through the tunnel without hesitation. To go up and over Malbone street to the other side of the tunnel necessitates climbing up a steep bank, and then walking a long way to the Kings County Elevated Railroad, and then down another steep bank to reach the tracks again. Pedestrians prefer the chances of the tunnel to going over this circuitous and somewhat difficult route.

George Kessell, of 34 Wyona street, was in charge of Engine 37, which drew the Kings County train leaving the Brooklyn Bridge at 1:15 o'clock yesterday afternoon. When he reached the Malbone street tunnel, he saw a man and a woman lying on the tracks. He stopped the train, and the bodies were found lying side by side, with their heads on one rail and their feet on the other.

Neither figure moved, he says, and a second or two later the engine struck them. He heard no shriek, but a sound like that of an engine striking a body. When the train came to a stop, he saw the bodies lying side by side, with their heads on one rail and their feet on the other. He saw the bodies lying side by side, with their heads on one rail and their feet on the other.

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## DEATH OF A VETERAN FOUNDER.

In This City for Fifty Years.

Benjamin Fox, who died last Friday, was at the time of his death the oldest living brass and iron founder in this city. For more than fifty years he had owned and personally conducted the foundry on West Thirty-fourth street, between Broadway and Third Avenue. He was the same foundry all the time, but under different aspects, for it began on a very small scale when Mr. Fox came to this country from England in 1847, being then a young man of 23, and decided that there was a good opening for a foundry on West Thirty-fourth street. At that time the city was a very different place from what it is now, and the industry of the city was very different from what it is now.

Benjamin Fox was a master workman, he was able to pick out competent men to serve him. Soon his business expanded beyond the limits of his little building. He put on additions. It was no use; the business filled the additions and demanded more space. Then he built a new building. A picture of this building taken in 1880, shows the building as it was then, a small, one-story building, with a gabled roof, and a small porch. The building was very substantial and businesslike. In the course of time that building was outgrown and was superseded by the present one. Through all these changes Mr. Fox was the head and center of the establishment. He was a master workman, he was able to pick out competent men to serve him. Soon his business expanded beyond the limits of his little building. He put on additions. It was no use; the business filled the additions and demanded more space. Then he built a new building. 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